



HR0255

LRB097 11440 KXB 53900 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the people who have
4 worked to give the Peace Corner Youth Center its own building;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The Peace Corner Youth Center is dedicated to
7 reaching out to all those in need; the Peace Corner Youth
8 Center is supported by the Comboni Missionaries; their mission
9 is to serve youth in need, those released from the detention
10 centers, and those in trouble, with no distinction of faith,
11 race, and background; and

12 WHEREAS, The Peace Corner Youth Center is a drop-in center
13 for young people on Chicago's West Side; the Peace Corner
14 opened in January of 2002 to provide neighborhood youth with a
15 safe place to gather, do their homework, and participate in
16 various recreation and learning activities; the Peace Corner is
17 open Monday through Friday from 2:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m and is
18 a welcoming and caring environment within a neighborhood
19 characterized by crime and violence; and

20 WHEREAS, The Peace Corner tries to provide a safe space
21 that is open to everyone in the neighborhood; regular
22 participants have attachments to no less than five different

1 gangs, yet there has never been a fight inside the facility;
2 instead, several instances of peace and reconciliation have
3 occurred through the mediation of Peace Corner staff; and

4 WHEREAS, The activities of the Peace Corner are aimed at
5 accomplishing the following closely related goals: to provide a
6 safe haven and neutral ground for young people living in a
7 neighborhood characterized by gang violence and drug use;
8 create a sense of belonging and community for young people as a
9 potent alternative to the lure of street life and gang
10 membership; and to instill self-esteem and pride of
11 accomplishment by endowing young people with responsibility
12 and "ownership" of the Peace Corner; and

13 WHEREAS, On April 9, 2011, the Peace Corner Youth Center
14 will celebrate the grand opening of its new building, the first
15 to be owned by the Peace Corner Youth Center; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
17 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
18 we congratulate the people of the Peace Corner Youth Center as
19 they prepare to open their new building, and we thank them for
20 their hard work and dedication; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
22 presented to the people who make up the Peace Corner Youth

1 Center, as a symbol of our respect and esteem, for the work
2 they are putting into the youth of Chicago.